

Serial No:
Filed:

Remarks

Claims 1 to 19 remain in this application.

Editorial changes have been made in the description and claims. No new matter has been added in this regard.

Reconsideration of the rejection of the claims is requested.

Claim 10 has been rejected as being anticipated by Chih.

Chih is directed to a water sprayer that has a main body 21 that is threaded onto the outer thread 297 of a connector 29. (See column 2, lines 55 to 60). In addition, a spray pattern dial 26 is provided on the sprayer that has a plurality of nozzles 261. (Column 2, lines 28 to 30).

The Examiner alleges that Chih has a connector with an exterior thread. Issue is taken in this respect. As clearly described and illustrated in Chih, the main body 21 is threaded onto the connector 29 by way of the outer thread 297 that is on the connector 29. Accordingly, Chih is void of any teaching of having "a connector mounted in and projecting from" the main body 21 "in non-rotatable relation, said connector having an exterior thread thereon and an internal passage to conduct a flow of water therethrough" as claimed. Accordingly, a rejection of claim 10 as being anticipated by Chih is not warranted pursuant to the provisions of 35 USC 102.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has made a double recitation of structure with respect to the connector 29 of Chih. This is not warranted pursuant to the provisions of 35 USC 102.

Serial No:
Filed:

Further, the outer thread 297 of the connector 29 of Chih does not meet the limitation that the connector project from the housing. As illustrated in Fig. 1 of Chih, the external thread 297 of the connector 29 is completely within the main body 21. For this additional reason, a rejection of claim 10 as being anticipated by Chih is not warranted pursuant to the provisions of 35 USC 102.

Claims 11 to 19 depend from claim 10 and are believed to be allowable for similar reasons.

Further, claim 11 requires "a hollow plug mounted coaxially between said second housing and said connector to retain said connector in said first housing". Chih is void of any such structure. Further, the Examiner's allegation that Chih discloses a non labeled hollow plug area between the connecting threads 297 and the main body 21 is not understood. To the extent that the Examiner may be referring to the annular recess in the connector 29 to the right hand side of the outer thread 297 as viewed in Fig. 1, such a recessed area is clearly not a "hollow plug". Accordingly, for this additional reason, a rejection of claim 10 as being anticipated by Chih is not warranted pursuant to the provisions of 35 USC 102.

Claim 12 depends from claim 10 and further requires a spray head to have at least three ports to discharge "a full stream of water. . . a jet stream of water. . . and . . . a mist therethrough." The Examiner agrees that Chih does not describe or teach such a structure. For this reason alone, a rejection of claim 11 is not warranted pursuant to the provisions of 35 USC 102.

The Examiner, alleges that Chih implies that each nozzle of Chih represents a different type of spray mode. Issue is taken in this respect. Chih describes the spray

pattern dial 26 as comprising a plurality of nozzles 261. There is no further description of the nozzles 261 except that as shown in Fig. 2. Each is identical. Accordingly, the Examiner may only speculate that the nozzles 261 provide a different spray pattern from the other. This is an insufficient basis for a rejection of claim 12 as being anticipated by Chih or as being obvious in view of Chih pursuant to the provisions of 35 USC 103.

Claim 14 further requires a pair of concentric rings of outlets "to discharge a center spray pattern of water". Claim 15 requires a pair of concentric rings of outlets "to discharge a shower spray pattern of water". The radial lines of pores 264 of Chih do not produce both "a center spray pattern of water" and "a shower spray pattern of water" that is to say, the pores 264 may produce one such pattern but not both.

Claim 1 has been rejected as being unpatentable over Wang. Issue is taken in this respect.

Wang describes a water spray gun 20 having an improved sprinkler head. In particular, the sprinkling cap 30 has a ring area 32 with a plurality of sprinkling pores, and a plurality of water discharge holes 33 of various geometric shapes. The shapes are described as circular, square, triangular, horizontally oriented and vertically oriented and a closed circular area (column 3, lines 16 to 20).

There is no description in Wang that the discharge holes 33 produce different spray patterns. That is to say, a jet of water from a triangular shaped hole 33 would provide a jet of triangular cross section and a jet from a square hole 33 would produce a jet with a square cross section. Neither hole 33 produces a spray pattern.

In view of the above, a rejection of claim 1 as being unpatentable over Wang is not warranted pursuant to the provisions of 35 USC 103.

Claims 2 to 9 depend from claim 1 and are believed to be allowable for similar reasons.

Claims 2 to 5 and 7 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Wang in view of Hui-Chen.

The Examiner alleges that Hui-Chen discloses a spray head with a variety of outlet sprays including full stream outlet, mist outlet hole and jet stream all labeled 14. Issue is taken in this respect. Specifically, there is no disclosure in Hui-Chen as to the nature and purpose of the inner water outlets 14 or the outer water outlets 15. The objective of Hui-Chen is to provide a pistol-type water sprayer with a multiple passageway projecting structure capable of sprinkling a large area. (Column 1, lines 18 to 21). In keeping with this objective, the water projecting structure is provided with a plurality of water outlets of various forms for attaining a multiple passageway projections (column 1, lines 22 to 27). Thus, there is no teaching that the outlets 14, 15 are to provide "a full stream of water. . . a jet stream of water. . . and. . . a water mist therethrough". Accordingly, the proposed modification of Wang with the teachings of Hui-Chen would not result in a claimed structure.

Note is made of the Examiner's allegation it would be obvious to modify the spray gun of Wang with the spray gun of Hui-Chen in order to enable commonly desirable spray modes for cleaning kitchenware. However, neither Wang nor Hui-Chen refers to a pre-rinse assembly cleaning kitchenware. Instead, each is directed to a water spray gun for sprinkling lawns and gardens.

Serial No:
Filed:

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such is
respectively requested.

FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATE

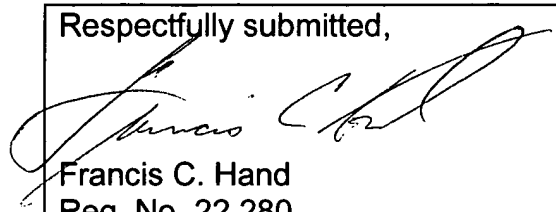
I hereby certify that this
correspondence is being deposited
today with the U.S. Postal Service as
First Class Mail in an envelope
addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231


Francis C. Hand, Esq.

12-6-04
Date

Respectfully submitted,


Francis C. Hand
Reg. No. 22,280

CARELLA, BYRNE BAIN, GILFILLAN,
CECCHI, STEWART & OLSTEIN
Five Becker Farm Road
Roseland, NJ 07068
Phone: 973-994-1700
Fax: 973-994-1744

232060